From: Leo Sell

To: Microsoft ATR

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Subject: microsoft settlement

The proposed settlement, is outrageous in many ways, but none more than the "wolf in sheep's clothing" that the school-related aspects represent.

Surely the proposal that as part of the fine or relief, Microsoft pay to provide Microsoft-centric hardware and software to schools must have been written by Microsoft folks. DOJ was hoodwinked.

This "relief" is clearly designed to shove Microsoft's monopoly into the one sector left that it is not dominant -- the schools. In supporting this, DOJ is playing right into Microsoft's hands, and this aspect will most certainly do injury to one of the few parties in the marketplace that offers a hale alternative to the Microsoft monopoly of desktop software -- Apple Computer. Apple has long been the stronger presence in the nation's schools. Apple has developed an operating system that, with some time and resource, could be ported to use on Intel-based machines.

A better remedy might be to make MS create a fund from which schools could draw money / grants to purchase the SCHOOL'S CHOICE of software and hardware.

A further suitable remedy might be to require MS to provide funding to Apple to port OS X to Intel-based machines.

/lgs
Leo Sell, Chairperson Administrative-Professional Association / MEA / NEA Michigan State University